

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the allowable feature of Claim 2, as noted by the Examiner in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Office Action. The prior art rejections are therefore believed to be moot.

Concerning the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Claim 2 simply recites that the member formed of a high melting point metal carbide and the member formed of carbon system material both have a rod shaped portion. This is believed to be clear on its face, and is supported in the specification, for example by either the rods 2 or 3A themselves, or their ends. This rejection is therefore traversed and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

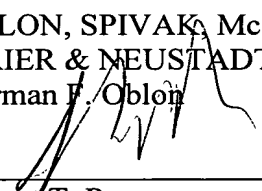
Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicit an early notice of allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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